

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:
inserting a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel; then
passing a first end of a filament, unattached to the guidewire, from outside the bowel through the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and into initial engagement with the guidewire at a location in the bowel; then passing the first end of the filament out of the bowel through the bowel wall so that the filament penetrates the bowel wall in two locations, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends;

clamping the first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free;

withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel through the opening into the bowel, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the second end of the filament through the bowel and out of the opening;

attaching the apparatus to a ~~portion of the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament~~ after the guidewire and ~~said portion~~ the second end of the filament have been withdrawn from the bowel; and

~~drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the bowel, further comprising passing the filament back out the wall of the bowel, so that it penetrates the bowel wall in two locations, clamping a first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends such that as the guidewire is withdrawn from the bowel and out of the opening, the second end of the filament is drawn through the bowel and out of the opening, the apparatus being attached to the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises forming the guidewire with a through channel and passing the filament through the channel of the guidewire.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire further comprises forming the channel in a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire, and passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith through the bowel wall and through the channel.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising locating a bulbous

enlargement of the guidewire in the bowel, the filament being passed through the bowel wall and into engagement with the bulbous enlargement.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching the filament to the apparatus comprises passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and tying it around a wall of the apparatus.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of attaching the apparatus to the filament comprises passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and out a side hole thereof and then tying the filament to a filament button, and pulling on the filament so that the filament button returns to the interior of the apparatus and abuts against the inner surface of the tip of the apparatus, the filament button being dimensioned such that it is unable to pass back out through the tip of the apparatus thereby securing the filament to the apparatus.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall and fixing this portion of the filament to the patient's skin.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall to an exterior of the body, winding the filament outside of the body onto a spool and fixing the spool on the body.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises passing a forward extension portion of the apparatus through bowel wall and the abdominal wall and securing the apparatus to the patient's skin.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising securing the apparatus to the patient's skin with suture, tape or a collar.

11-46. (Canceled)

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein further comprising forming a

structure on the guidewire which is adapted to enable the filament to be engaged therewith.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall.

49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[48]] 1, where the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall, through a channel in the guidewire, and through the bowel wall, so that the needle passes completely through the bowel.

50. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49, ~~further comprising wherein the step of clamping the first end of the filament comprises~~ holding the needle with the filament engaged therewith when withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49, further comprising ~~[[:]] severing the needle after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, the first ; and clamping a forward end of the filament being clamped~~ before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 49, further comprising ~~[[:]] passing the needle through the abdominal wall and out of the body after the filament is engaged with the guidewire and the needle is passed out of the bowel, the first ; and then clamping a forward end of the filament being clamped~~ outside of the body before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising fixing the apparatus in place in the bowel.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a tubular apparatus.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the apparatus is a drainage tube.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the opening into the bowel is the anus.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising forming the bulbous enlargement with a diameter of about 0.25 inches to about 0.75 inches.

58. (Previously Presented) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:
inserting a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel; then
passing a filament through the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and into engagement with the guidewire;
withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the filament through the bowel and out of the opening;
attaching the apparatus to the filament after the guidewire and engaged filament have been withdrawn from the bowel; and
drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the opening into the bowel;
the step of attaching the apparatus to the filament comprising passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and out a side hole thereof and then tying the filament to a filament button, and pulling on the filament so that the filament button returns to the interior of the apparatus and abuts against the inner surface of the tip of the apparatus, the filament button being dimensioned such that it is unable to pass back out through the tip of the apparatus thereby securing the filament to the apparatus.

59. (Currently Amended) A method for inserting an apparatus into a bowel, comprising:
inserting a forward end of a guidewire into the bowel through an opening into the bowel; then
passing the forward end of the guidewire to a second location in the bowel, then
without the forward end of the guidewire exiting the bowel, passing a filament through the bowel wall into the bowel lumen and then bringing the filament and forward end of the guidewire into engagement with one another at the second location in the bowel;
passing the filament back out the wall of the bowel, so that it penetrates the bowel wall in two locations;
clamping a first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends;
withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel through the opening into the bowel, after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, to thereby draw the second end of the filament through the bowel and out of the opening;
attaching the apparatus to the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament after the

guidewire and a portion of the engaged filament have been withdrawn from the bowel;

drawing the filament with attached apparatus back through the opening in the bowel and through the bowel; further comprising passing the filament back out the wall of the bowel, so that it penetrates the bowel wall in two locations, clamping a first end of the filament while a second end of the filament is free, the filament being engaged with the guidewire between the first and second ends such that as the guidewire is withdrawn from the bowel and out of the opening, the second end of the filament is drawn through the bowel and out of the opening, the apparatus being attached to the filament in the vicinity of the second end of the filament.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the opening into the bowel is a natural orifice.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the opening into the bowel is the anus.

62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the apparatus is a tube.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the apparatus is a drainage tube having apertures.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises forming the guidewire with a through channel and passing the filament through the channel of the guidewire.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 64, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire further comprises forming the channel in a bulbous enlargement of the guidewire, and passing a needle with threaded filament through the bowel wall and through the channel.

66. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 65, further comprising forming the bulbous enlargement with a diameter of about 0.25 inches to about 0.75 inches.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising locating a bulbous

enlargement of the guidewire in the bowel, the filament being passed through the bowel wall and into engagement with the bulbous enlargement.

68. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein further comprising forming a structure on the guidewire which is adapted to enable the filament to be engaged therewith.

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of passing the filament through the bowel wall and into engagement with the guidewire comprises passing a needle with the filament engaged therewith, but unattached to the guidewire, through the bowel wall.

70. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the step of clamping the first end of the filament comprises holding the needle with the filament engaged therewith when withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

71. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69, further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ severing the needle after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, ~~the first~~ and clamping a forward end of the filament being clamped before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 69, further comprising ~~[[:]]~~ passing the needle from the inside of the bowel out of the body after the filament is engaged with the guidewire, ~~the first~~ and then clamping a forward end of the filament being clamped outside of the body before withdrawing the guidewire from the bowel and out of the opening.

73. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, wherein the step of attaching the filament to the apparatus comprises passing the filament through a tip of the apparatus and tying it around a wall of the apparatus.

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 59, further comprising fixing the apparatus in place in the bowel.

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall and fixing this portion of the filament to the patient's skin.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises cutting the filament to leave a portion connected to the apparatus, passing this portion of the filament through the abdominal wall to an exterior of the body, winding the filament outside of the body onto a spool and fixing the spool on the body.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 74, wherein the step of fixing the apparatus in place comprises passing a forward extension portion of the apparatus through bowel wall and the abdominal wall and securing the apparatus to the patient's skin.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising securing the apparatus to the patient's skin with suture, tape or a collar.

79-81. (Canceled)